

MERCHANTS TELL OF THE RESUMPTION OF BUSINESS.

Bankers, Brokers, Manufacturers, Wholesale and Retail Dealers, Builders and Others Report Activity in All Commercial Lines.

BANKERS PREDICT PROSPERITY.

Henry Clews, J. Edward Simmons and Others Say Times Have Changed for the Better.

Henry Clews—Times may now be confidently expected to change for the better, and will be good for the next four years. This nation is now headed to overcome all others in prosperity and wealth making.

J. Edward Simmons, president of the Fourth National Bank and the Clearing House Association—There have been trying times for bankers. There will now be the immediate restoration of confidence and the beginning of another era of prosperity for the country.

W. W. Sherman, president of the National Bank of Commerce, of which J. Pierpont Morgan is a director—There will be a revival of business such as we have not seen in years. Look for a flood of foreign money. I predict four years of great prosperity.

John A. Stewart, president of the United States Trust Company—Expect an awakening of business such as we have not seen for years. Foreigners will now turn to this country again as a favorite place for the investment of their millions, and I believe they will place money here on a larger scale than ever before.

Russell Sage—You may say that the effect will be almost an immediate return to prosperity. Enterprises will be taken up. Money will be invested and business will go ahead again with a rush.

William McNaughton, president of the Tradesmen's National Bank—The wool men are starting up factories. We look for a very strong and active market in woolen goods. Only last week there were the largest sales for a week ever known.

A. P. Heyburn, president of the Third National Bank—Look for a great influx of foreign money and the revival of business in all lines.

George G. Williams, president of the Chemical National Bank—Business is reviving with a rush.

William A. Nash, president of the Corn Exchange Bank—Just as great as the depression has been will be the rebound toward prosperity, and its signs of endurance are most convincing.

Sidney W. Curtis, broker, No. 2 Exchange Court—London quotations on American securities show extraordinary advances.

Watson & Gibson, bankers, No. 55 Broadway—Business is brighter, and will continue to brighten as money finds investment and factories are opened on full time.

F. B. Dick, broker, No. 30 Broad street—

WHOLESALESAERS ARE BUSY.

Many Declare They Have Orders Ahead Which They Are Already Beginning to Ship.

G. C. Boorum, of the Boorum & Pense Company, manufacturers of blank books—We have every reason to look forward to a large business. For months our trade had been falling off, and we were living in a state of hope deferred. Now we are prepared to go ahead with our business on a grand scale. We have a factory in Brooklyn, where in ordinary times we employ about 400 hands. For some time past we have been running part time and with a reduced force. Already orders have come in which will justify us in resuming work with a full force of employees and keeping them at work full time.

Even houses in Colorado and Texas have written us that they looked forward to resuming work. The change cannot come in a day or a week. It will be slow, but it will be sure. This morning we received telegrams telling us to send goods and hurry them. As they were already packed we sent them out today. The orders, I am sure, are only the beginning of many similar ones which we will receive.

Henry Dodge Cooper, of the firm of James J. White & Company, importers of

hosiery—Orders have been coming in to-day by mail and telegram. These orders mean that the mill, which has been shut down or running part time for months will have to work full time to meet the demands upon them. With the mills running full time, wages will necessarily be increased. We have thousands of orders on hand. As matters stand to-day, the demand for goods exceeds the supply. That in itself shows what will follow, for there was never such a state of affairs without prosperity and business success.

John Claffin, of H. B. Claffin & Co., wholesale dry goods—Merchants in all parts of the country are coming forward with a steady stream of orders, which has already caused our business to pick up appreciably, and which assures a splendid, healthy trade for the balance of the year, and is a most favorable omen of what to expect next Spring. This trade means the resumption of factories.

W. L. Strong, of W. L. Strong & Co., wholesale woolens, No. 75 Worth street—There has been a sudden and remarkable increase of orders from retail dealers. The winter trade is practically over, and the spring trade has not begun. This is especially good, as it prevents a sudden boom, which might result in a reaction. The increased trade already felt is merely the beginning of a steady growth, which will continue.

Edward A. Treat, of the firm of C. Coffin, Altemus & Company, wholesale dealers in

woolens—We have received orders to-day on a great quantity of goods. Last week it would have been impossible for us to have received these orders even by offering unusual terms; now they have come to us unsolicited.

For months many styles of cotton goods have been selling below the cost of manufacture. Now we can hope to see the prices increased, so that there will be profit, and so that the workmen will be able to make good wages. Such a condition of affairs augurs certain good. I am looking forward to a heavy Spring trade. The stocks on hand in the ordinary stores are very small, as the merchants have been trying to get along with as little expenditure as possible. Now we are beginning to buy. We cannot expect any marvelous change until the workmen are employed, but that condition will be fulfilled soon under the present condition of affairs.

James Talcott, dry goods commission merchant, of No. 108 Franklin street—We have noticed an improvement in the dry goods business. Merchants are giving orders and there is an indication that the public will buy freely during the latter days of the Fall trade. There is practically no surplus stock, for the manufacturers stopped their mills as soon as the dealers stopped buying.

James McCreery, dealer in dry goods—My partner remarked to me after the close of business last night that the day's trade reminded him of a day in the middle of the season instead of near the close. We did more business than we have done for some time. We are arranging now to send out our salesmen, and starting in to-day to fill orders amounting in the aggregate to thousands of dollars. Other houses have similar orders, so the railroads are assured of an immediate increased shipping. We expect our salesmen to obtain big orders from out-of-town dealers, and that will start the wheels of the factories.

J. H. Sweetser, of Sweetser, Pembroke & Co., wholesale dry goods, Broadway and

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MORE CUSTOM FOR RETAILERS.

Heads of Big Department Stores Think Money Will Be Freer and Business Better.

Isidor Straus, of R. H. Macy & Co.—I look for an immediate improvement in business. Retail merchants will give orders they have been holding back, and this will create a demand for goods of all kinds. Factories will be started to fill the demand. Labor men will thereby get work, and they will have money to spend.

B. J. Greenhut, of the Siegel-Cooper Company—There may be an improvement of business, but not a restoration, for business has not been dead, as some people seem to imagine.

My opinion is that business will improve, because merchants who have been holding back orders will now place them. That will give the wholesale dealers something to do, and they will in turn give orders to the manufacturers. Labor men will thereby be given work.

E. W. Bloomingdale, of the firm of Bloomingdale Brothers—Renewed prosperity will surely come, but it will come slowly. By next Spring a marked improvement will, I am fully convinced, begin to be apparent, over the comparative dullness and unprosperity that the country has recently been experiencing, and there will be a still greater change for the better in the course of the year following that. For the remainder of this year, or the beginning of next, I do not anticipate any marked change.

Our own importations and purchases for this winter are practically concluded, and we do not expect to add to them till we begin preparations for the Spring trade. But everything points to renewed business activity; to reawakened business prosperity; to a strong feeling of business confidence.

Samuel W. Ehrlich, of Ehrlich Brothers—I have noticed a revival of business to-day. People who have been holding their money are now spending it. Merchants have held back orders usually given at this time of year because they did not know whether their patrons would buy freely. Now the costumes will be made, and that will give work to people that otherwise would be idle. We will increase our stock, and the factories will thereby be

enabled to start their wheels. I think it only reasonable to assume that we will have an era of great prosperity.

J. & J. Dobson—We are filling a flood of new orders, and more are coming in by every mail.

Sheppard Knapp & Co.—Our business has picked up and our aggregate sales show a decided increase. We are not making any arrangements for increased business, but will do so if circumstances warrant it.

B. M. Cowenorthwait & Co.—Our stores are crowded with goods, and we will keep pace with the good times by making provision for more business.

G. F. & E. C. Swift—We notice no appreciable difference in our business, but collections are easier.

Acker, Merrill & Condit—We have not made any arrangements for increased business, but we did more and larger orders in our mail.

Arnold, Constable & Co.—Business has picked up, and we look for a further increase. Our travelling salesmen report it is much easier to get orders.

A. J. Cammeyer—Our sales have almost doubled, but we don't expect to employ any more people.

Eastmans Company—Collections are much easier. If circumstances warrant it we will put on more men, but at present we have all we can employ.

R. J. Horner & Co.—Business is much better, but we will not employ any more men at present.

Youngstown, O., Nov. 6.—The furnaces at Hubbard and Lovellville were lighted yesterday. The large steel plant will be put in operation, and several other mills resumed work to-day.

To Employ Many More Men.

Muncie, Ind., Nov. 6.—Ball Brothers' glass works will immediately start up an additional factory and give 500 extra men employment. Every department of the Indiana Iron Works will begin next Monday as the result of an increased number of orders. It has been running but one week last Summer, and will start a full force this Summer. Several other factories will soon start up with full forces.

Big Steel Works to Start Up.

J. W. Gates, president of the Illinois Steel Company, Chicago—We started up our Joliet works last night, which gives employment to 2,800 men, and I think that within a few weeks, probably early in December, we will start up the South Chicago works. We also have plans under consideration for extending our plant in Milwaukee, but nothing is definitely settled.

Activity in the Ohio Valley.

Cincinnati, Nov. 6.—Big Four, Chesapeake & Ohio and Baltimore & Ohio railroads have ordered their shops opened and enlarged forces at those already running. The car works at Mount Vernon, Ill., got an order for 300 cars from the Louisville & Nashville road, and have resumed work. The Niles Tool Works and other shops at Hamilton announced increased forces. Furnaces at Ironton, Ashland and other river towns announced that they will be in blast soon, but no dates are given. The Griffith Wood Works and the Powell Brass Works, both large concerns, employing many men, announced that they would resume at once. The big copper shops at Harrison, Ohio, on the Cincinnati, Portsmouth & Virginia Railway, have resumed work to their full capacity. One, and probably two, of the idle mills of the Addyston Pipe Company, this country, will start in full as soon as repairs now in progress can be completed.

Two Factories to Re-open.

Des Moines, Ia., Nov. 6.—Two factories which have been closed will be opened immediately—the Harbath Furniture Company and the Shearman Woolen Mills—the latter to employ 200 hands in the near future.

BUILDERS EXPECT ACTIVITY.

John D. Crimmins Sees Signs Already of Business Quickening and Prosperity.

John D. Crimmins, building contractor—Already there are signs of business quickening and a general return of more prosperous conditions. The fact that the election is over relieves the tension on business men all over the country. There is a feeling of relief that matters are settled for four years, and money will flow back into its accustomed channels.

I have not a doubt that wages will rise

20 per cent, more people will be employed, money which has been tied up will be in circulation again. I have this very morning given orders to my architect to get plans ready for several buildings which I have in contemplation. I have talked to other business men and they feel the same relief.

C. S. Cook, representative of the Hecla Iron Works, which has had the contract for the iron work on the American Society Company Building, the American Trust Society Building, and other large structures, and employs a large force of men—As long as matters were in a state of uncertainty business was depressed. There have been signs even to-day of renewed business activity, and I have not the slightest doubt that the general stagnation of the last two years is ending.

J. E. Ogden, lumber mills, Twenty-second street and Eleventh avenue—I expect an increased business. I have no doubt that there will be better times for working people. In fact, every one will feel the benefit of the long uncertainty.

Orley & Co., general contractors for electrical fixtures—Contracts which have been on hand will now be carried out. Men people will be employed, and factory will resume its normal condition.

FACTORIES AND MILLS ACTIVE.

To Employ 500 More Men.

Milwaukee, Nov. 6.—The Milwaukee Harvester Company placed 300 additional men at work, and its officers said 200 more would be employed within a month.

To Resume on Full Time.

Racine, Wis., Nov. 6.—The J. I. Case Piano Works will resume in about two weeks. A full force of hands will be put on, and the plant will run two hours a day. The J. I. Case Threshing Machine Company plant will resume December 10 with a full force. The Racine Woolen Mills will resume December 1 with a full force, on full time. The Racine Vagon and Carriage Company, a concern employing nearly 1,000 people, is getting its force of travelling men together, and will start them on the road next Monday morning. The same information was received from the Mitchell and Lewis Vagon Company, Fifth Brothers' Vagon Company, Belle City Manufacturing Company, Northwestern Truck Company, T. A. P. Dickey Manufacturing Company started up to-day with a full force, ten hours a day.

Giving Larger Orders.

Dayton, O., Nov. 6.—The Stillwell-Hiers Company, manufacturers of hydraulic presses, have given out a large order for printing, and the Barney & Smith Car Works will begin operations at once with a force of 2,000 men.

Resuming on Full Time.

Decatur, Ill., Nov. 6.—The Walsh shops, which have been idle for three months, will start a full force six days a week. The furniture factory which has been working full time and half force all Summer, will start a full force Monday morning. About 300 men are affected altogether.

Furnaces Relighted.

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Charles L. Tiffany.

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Employees' Wages Increased.

Louisville, Ky., Nov. 5.—The Louisville Chair Company to-day voluntarily increased the wages of its 125 employees 10 per cent. The Ohio Falls Car Manufacturing Company employ 2,500 men, and will at once begin the construction of 2,000 freight cars. Contracts for more are being bid for by President Snyder, who is in New York. The Louisville Woolen Mills, employing 500 hands, resumed to-day. The Louisville &

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